

Atty. Docket No. POU920010173US1

Serial No. 10/043,489

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) In a data processing network having a server with multiple partitions, a fabric, and a channel adapter communicating between the partitions and the fabric wherein each partition has an assigned address, a method of non-disruptively removing an assigned address comprising:

sending a logout command from the channel adapter to the fabric, the logout command including an address to be removed;

checking the address to be removed with a table of active addresses to determine if the address to be removed is an active address, the table of active addresses containing addresses generated and assigned to partitions by the fabric in response to address assignment requests from the partitions;

changing the status of the address to be removed from active to inactive, thereby allowing the inactivated address to be reassigned by the fabric to the same or another partition that requests an address assignment; and

sending an accept response from the fabric to the channel adapter indicating that the address to be removed has been removed.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the said table associates a partition identification with the address to be removed, said method further comprising:

including a partition identification in said logout command;

checking the partition identification from said logout command with the partition identification in said table associated with the address to be removed; and

sending said accept response only when both the address and the partition identification in the logout command match with the address and associated partition identification in said table.

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3. *(Original)* The method of claim 1 wherein said logout command includes an address of the source of the logout command, and the address to be removed is the same as the source address of the logout command.

4. *(Withdrawn)* A method for non-disruptively removing one of multiple addresses assigned to a channel adapter, said method comprising:

sending from the channel adapter to a fabric a logout command requesting the fabric to unassign a given address; and

receiving from said fabric, a response indicating the requested address is unassigned, said channel adapter detecting an error if the response does not indicate the requested address was successfully removed.

5. *(Withdrawn)* The method of claim 4 wherein the logout command includes a source address of a partition making the request, and the source address is the address being requested to be removed.

6. *(Withdrawn)* A method for non-disruptively removing one of multiple addresses registered in a fabric, said method comprising:

receiving by the fabric from a channel adapter, a logout command requesting the fabric to unassign a given address to be removed;

locating the address to be removed among the addresses registered in the fabric;

changing in the fabric, the status of the address to be removed from active to unassigned; and

sending an accept from the fabric to the channel adapter indicating the requested address to be removed has been unassigned.

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7. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 6 wherein the logout command includes an identification of a partition having the address to be removed, and the fabric includes identifications of partitions associated with the registered addresses, said method further comprises:

matching both the address to be removed and the partition identification in the logout command to the address and associated partition identification registered in the fabric; and

sending the accept from the fabric to the channel adapter only if both the address and partition identification in the logout command match the address and associated partition identification registered in the fabric.

8. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 6 wherein the logout command includes a source address of the partition which is making the request, and the address to be removed is the source address.

9. **(Currently Amended)** In a data processing network having a server with multiple partitions, a fabric, and a channel adapter communicating between the partitions and the fabric wherein each partition has an assigned address, a apparatus for non-disruptively removing an assigned address comprising:

means for sending a logout command from the channel adapter to the fabric, the logout command including an address to be removed;

means for checking the address to be removed with a table of active addresses to determine if the address to be removed is an active address, the table of active addresses containing addresses generated and assigned to partitions by the fabric in response to address assignment requests from the partitions;

means for changing the status of the address to be removed from active to inactive, thereby allowing the inactivated address to be reassigned by the fabric to the same or another partition that requests an address assignment; and

means for sending an accept response from the fabric to the channel adapter indicating that the address to be removed has been removed.

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10. (*Original*) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the said table associates a partition identification with the address to be removed, said apparatus further comprising;

- means for including a partition identification in said logout command;
- means for checking the partition identification from said logout command with the partition identification in said table associated with the address to be removed; and
- means for sending said accept response only when both the address and the partition identification in the logout command match with the address and associated partition identification in said table.

11. (*Original*) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said logout command includes an address of the source of the logout command, and the address to be removed in the same as the source address of the logout command.

12. (*Currently Amended*) A data processing system comprising:

- a server having multiple partitions;
- a fabric;
- a channel adapter communicating between the partitions and the fabric via a channel adapter wherein each partition has an assigned address that was assigned to it by the fabric in response to the partition's request for an address assignment;
- said channel adapter sending a logout command to the fabric, the logout command including an address to be removed;
- a table in said fabric for registering addresses that the fabric generated and assigned to said channel adapter, said fabric checking the address to be removed with said table to determine if the address to be removed is an active address;
- said fabric changing the status of the address to be removed from active to inactive, thereby allowing the inactivated address to be reassigned by the fabric to the same or another partition that requests an address assignment; and
- said fabric sending an accept response to the channel adapter indicating that the address to be removed has been removed.

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13. (*Original*) The data processing system of claim 12 wherein the said table associates a partition identification with the address to be removed, said data processing system further comprising;

 said channel adapter including a partition identification in said logout command;

 said fabric checking the partition identification from said logout command with the partition identification in said table associated with the address to be removed; and

 said fabric sending said accept response only when both the address and the partition identification in the logout command match with the address and associated partition identification in said table.

14. (*Original*) The data processing system of claim 12 wherein said logout command includes an address of the source of the logout command, and the address to be removed in the same as the source address of the logout command.

15. (*Withdrawn*) A channel adapter non-disruptively removing one of multiple addresses assigned to the channel adapter, comprising:

 a port on said channel adapter sending from the channel adapter to a fabric a logout command requesting the fabric to unassign a given address; and

 said port receiving from said fabric, a response indicating the requested address is unassigned, said channel adapter detecting an error if the response does not indicate the requested address was successfully removed.

16. (*Withdrawn*) The method of claim 15 wherein the logout command includes a source address of a partition making the request, and the source address is the address being requested to be removed.

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17. *(Withdrawn)* A apparatus non-disruptively removing one of multiple addresses registered in a fabric, said apparatus comprising:

 a port in said fabric receiving from a channel adapter, a logout command requesting said fabric to unassign a given address to be removed;

 said fabric locating the address to be removed among the addresses registered in said fabric;

 said fabric changing the status of the address to be removed from active to unassigned; and

 said port sending an accept from said fabric to the channel adapter indicating the requested address to be removed has been unassigned.

18. *(Withdrawn)* The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the logout command includes an identification of a partition having the address to be removed, and the fabric includes identifications of partitions associated with the registered addresses, and said apparatus further comprises:

 said fabric matching both the address to be removed and the partition identification in the logout command to the address and associated partition identification registered in said fabric; and

 said port sending the accept from the fabric to the channel adapter only if both the address and partition identification in the logout command match the address and associated partition identification registered in the fabric.

19. *(Withdrawn)* The method of claim 17 wherein the logout command includes a source address of the partition which is making the request, and the address to be removed is the source address.

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20. (*Currently Amended*) A program product usable with a data processing network having a server with multiple partitions, a fabric, and a channel adapter communicating between the partitions and the fabric wherein each partition has an assigned address, said program product comprising:

 a computer readable medium having recorded thereon computer readable program code performing a method of non-disruptively removing an assigned address comprising:

 sending a logout command from the channel adapter to the fabric, the logout command including an address to be removed;

 checking the address to be removed with a table of active addresses to determine if the address to be removed is an active address, the table of active addresses containing addresses generated and assigned to partitions by the fabric in response to address assignment requests from the partitions;

 changing the status of the address to be removed from active to inactive, thereby allowing the inactivated address to be reassigned by the fabric to the same or another partition that requests an address assignment; and

 sending an accept response from the fabric to the channel adapter indicating that the address to be removed has been removed.

21. (*Original*) The program product of claim 20 wherein the said table associates a partition identification with the address to be removed, said method further comprising;

 including a partition identification in said logout command;

 checking the partition identification from said logout command with the partition identification in said table associated with the address to be removed; and

 sending said accept response only when both the address and the partition identification in the logout command match with the address and associated partition identification in said table.

22. (*Original*) The program product of claim 20 wherein said logout command includes an address of the source of the logout command, and the address to be removed in the same as the source address of the logout command.

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23. *(Withdrawn)* A program product usable with a channel adapter for non-disruptively removing one of multiple addresses assigned to the channel adapter, said program product comprising:

 a computer readable medium having recorded thereon computer readable program code performing the method comprising:

 sending from the channel adapter to a fabric a logout command requesting the fabric to unassign a given address; and

 receiving from said fabric, a response indicating the requested address is unassigned, said channel adapter detecting an error if the response does not indicate the requested address was successfully removed.

24. *(Withdrawn)* The program product of claim 23 wherein the logout command includes a source address of a partition making the request, and the source address is the address being requested to be removed.

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25. *(Withdrawn)* A program product usable with an apparatus for non-disruptively removing one of multiple addresses registered in a fabric, said program product comprising:

 a computer readable medium having recorded thereon computer readable program code performing the method comprising:

 receiving by the fabric from a channel adapter, a logout command requesting the fabric to unassign a given address to be removed;

 locating the address to be removed among the addresses registered in the fabric;

 changing in the fabric, the status of the address to be removed from active to unassigned; and

 sending an accept from the fabric to the channel adapter indicating the requested address to be removed has been unassigned.

26. *(Withdrawn)* The program product of claim 25 wherein the logout command includes an identification of a partition having the address to be removed, and the fabric includes identifications of partitions associated with the registered addresses, and said method further comprises:

 matching both the address to be removed and the partition identification in the logout command to the address and associated partition identification registered in the fabric; and

 sending the accept from the fabric to the channel adapter only if both the address and partition identification in the logout command match the address and associated partition identification registered in the fabric.

27. *(Withdrawn)* The program product of claim 25 wherein the logout command includes a source address of the partition which is making the request, and the address to be removed is the source address.